

EXHIBIT 29
DATE Jan 27, 09
HB 2

January 26, 2009

Dear Appropriations SubCommittee,

Thank you for your interest in my testimony. I have come to give input on the Medicaid waiver program from the perspective of someone who has been on waiver services for more than 5 years. I have a Case manager, hab trainer, PCA's, and a homemaker. This combination enables me to pursue living my life in my own home.

I am in support of both provider rate and caregiver wage increases. Home healthcare as an industry, is really in its infancy. The aging baby boomer population will cause an explosion of need for quality support professionals who must be afforded a living wage.

While I appreciate the insurance funding for caregivers for 2009, I would like to see this be extended and made permanent. As well, insurance for caregivers should include homemakers and hab trainers. They are also a part of our care.

To help ensure the quality of caregivers I feel that background checks, and a drug and caregiver registry should be mandated. I, like you, would not want a loved one to be taken care of by someone who had not gone through an in depth standardized scrutiny.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Yours,



Nancy Davenport

Missoula, MT